

Contact:

Shannon O'Brien 202-225-2671

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A resolution passed today by the United States House of Representatives (H.R. 2956) calling upon President Bush to redeploy U.S. Armed forces in Iraq signals yet another action by Democratic leadership to help stave off the depletion of our military resources mired in what has clearly become a civil war between factions in Iraq.

This resolution calls for the strengthening of U.S. Homeland Security by allowing counter-terrorism troops to stay in the region and will redirect our resources from an endless occupation of Iraq to fighting Al-Qaeda and global terrorism.

News today indicates Al-Qaeda has regained its footing. CNN reported this morning on intelligence analysis forwarded by a senior government official claiming, "Al Qaeda is the strongest it has been since the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks."

Congressman Carnahan voted in favor of the resolution, his fourth vote in the House to force a change in direction in Iraq, and released the following statement.

CARNAHAN'S STATEMENT

"We have a responsibility to provide the best possible defense in addressing real terrorist threats both at home and abroad. Frankly, we are no closer today to pursuing a policy that focuses on apprehending Osama Bin Laden than we were when this administration misled the American people and jeopardized our world standing with its rush to war against Iraq."

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It is evident that a civil war between competing Iraqi factions jeopardizes the safety of our troops and the stubborn stay the course policies of the Bush Administration are depleting our military viability. My vote in support of the Responsible Redeployment from Iraq Act reflects the growing will of an impatient public and my unwavering commitment to our troops, and their families, to ensure they return home safe, sound and soon."

Congressman Russ Carnahan